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## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

## 1-37 (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an interleukin-12 overproduction-related disorder, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of the compound of formula (I):

wherein

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} R^a \\ R_b \end{pmatrix}$$
  $R_1$  is , aryl, or heteroaryl;

each of  $R_2$  and  $R_4$ , independently, is  $R^c$ , halogen, nitro, cyano, isothionitro,  $SR^c$ , or  $OR^c$ ; or  $R_2$  and  $R_4$ , taken together, is carbonyl[[.]];

 $R_3 \text{ is } R^c, \text{ alkenyl, alkynyl, } OR^c, OC(O)R^c, SO_2R^c, S(O)R^c, S(O_2)NR^cR^d, SR^c, NR^cR^d, NR^cCOR^d, NR^cC(O)OR^d, NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d, NR^cSO_2R^d, COR^c, C(O)OR^c, or C(O)NR^cR^d; \\$ 

R<sub>5</sub> is H or alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

X is O, S, S(O), S(O<sub>2</sub>), or  $NR^c$ ;

Y is a covalent bond, CH<sub>2</sub>, C(O), C=N-R<sup>c</sup>, C=N-OR<sup>c</sup>, C=N-SR<sup>c</sup>, O, S, S(O), S(O<sub>2</sub>), or  $NR^c$ ;

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Z is N or CH;

one of U and V is N, and the other is CRc; and

W is O, S, S(O), S(O<sub>2</sub>),  $NR^c$ , or  $NC(O)R^c$ ;

in which each of R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup>, independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl; and each of R<sup>c</sup> and R<sup>d</sup>, independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, heterocyclyl, or alkylcarbonyl.

- 39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the disorder is rheumatoid arthritis, sepsis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, psoriasis, or insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.
- 40. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of the compound of formula (I):

$$R_3$$
 $R_4$ 
 $R_4$ 
 $R_4$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_5$ 
 $R_5$ 

wherein

$$R_1$$
 is  $N = R^a$ , aryl, or heteroaryl;

each of  $R_2$  and  $R_4$ , independently, is  $R^c$ , halogen, nitro, cyano, isothionitro,  $SR^c$ , or  $OR^c$ ; or  $R_2$  and  $R_4$ , taken together, is carbonyl;

 $R_3$  is  $R^c$ , alkenyl, alkynyl,  $OR^c$ ,  $OC(O)R^c$ ,  $SO_2R^c$ ,  $S(O)R^c$ ,  $S(O_2)NR^cR^d$ ,  $SR^c$ ,  $NR^cR^d$ ,  $NR^cCOR^d$ ,  $NR^cC(O)OR^d$ ,  $NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$ ,  $NR^cSO_2R^d$ ,  $COR^c$ ,  $C(O)OR^c$ , or  $C(O)NR^cR^d$ ;

R<sub>5</sub> is H or alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

X is O, S, S(O), S(O<sub>2</sub>), or  $NR^c$ ;

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Y is a covalent bond,  $CH_2$ , C(O),  $C=N-R^c$ ,  $C=N-OR^c$ ,  $C=N-SR^c$ , O, S, S(O),  $S(O_2)$ , or  $NR^c$ ;

Z is N or CH;

one of U and V is N, and the other is CRc; and

W is O, S, S(O), S(O<sub>2</sub>),  $NR^c$ , or  $NC(O)R^c$ ;

in which each of R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup>, independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl; and each of R<sup>c</sup> and R<sup>d</sup>, independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, heterocyclyl, or alkylcarbonyl; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40, wherein  $R_1$  is

$$N = \stackrel{\mathsf{R}^a}{\longleftarrow} R^b$$

- 42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein U is N and V is CH.
- 43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein Z is N and W is O.
- 44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein X is NR<sup>c</sup>.
- 45. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 44, wherein R<sup>c</sup> is H, methyl, ethyl, or acetyl.
- 46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein Y is O or  $CH_2$ , and n is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.
- 47. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 46, wherein  $R_3$  is aryl or heteroaryl.

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48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is pyridinyl.

- 49. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 46, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is OR<sup>c</sup>, SR<sup>c</sup>, C(O)OR<sup>c</sup>, or C(O)NR<sup>c</sup>R<sup>d</sup>.
  - 50. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 46, wherein  $R_3$  is

$$R^f$$
 or  $R^f$   $A$ 

in which

each of A and A', independently, is O, S, or NH; each of  $R^e$  and  $R^f$ , independently is H, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and m is 1 or 2.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 41, wherein one of R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> is

in which

B is NR<sup>i</sup>, O, or S;

B' is N or CR<sup>i</sup>;

Rg is H, alkyl, or alkoxyl;

 $R^{h} \ is \ halogen, \ NO_{2}, \ CN, \ alkyl, \ aryl, \ heteroaryl, \ OR^{c}, \ OC(O)R^{c}, \ SO_{2}R^{c}, \ S(O)R^{c}, \\ S(O_{2})NR^{c}R^{d}, \ SR^{c}, \ NR^{c}R^{d}, \ NR^{c}COR^{d}, \ NR^{c}C(O)OR^{d}, \ NR^{c}C(O)NR^{c}R^{d}, \ NR^{c}SO_{2}R^{d}, \ COR^{c}, \\ C(O)OR^{c}, \ or \ C(O)NR^{c}R^{d};$ 

Ri is H, alkyl, or alkylcarbonyl;

p is 0, 1, or 2; and

q is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

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52. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 51, wherein one of R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> is

$$\mathbb{R}^{q}$$
 or  $\mathbb{R}^{h_{q}}$  ; and

He is reliable in delivering work product to the client on time the other of  $R^a$  and  $R^b$  is H or alkyl.

- (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 52, wherein  $R^g$  is H, methyl, ethyl, propyl, cyclopropyl, methoxy, or ethoxy;  $R^h$  is F, Cl, CN, methyl, methoxy, ethoxy, OC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>, OC(O)C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, C(O)OH, C(O)OC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, C(O)NH<sub>2</sub>, NHC(O)CH<sub>3</sub>, or S(O<sub>2</sub>)NH<sub>2</sub>;  $R^i$  is H, methyl, ethyl, or acetyl, and q is 0, 1, or 2.
- 54 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein R<sup>g</sup> is methyl or methoxy; R<sup>i</sup> is H; and q is 0.
  - (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein U is N and V is CH.
  - 56 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 55, wherein Z is N and W is O.
  - 57 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 56, wherein X is NR<sup>c</sup>; and R<sup>c</sup> is H, methyl, ethyl, or acetyl.
  - New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 57, wherein Y is O or CH<sub>2</sub>; and n is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.
  - 59 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 58, wherein  $R_3$  is aryl or heteroaryl.

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60 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 59, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is pyridinyl.

(New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 53, wherein Y is O or  $CH_2$ , and n is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

- 62 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 61, wherein  $R_3$  is aryl or heteroaryl.
  - 63 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 61, wherein  $R_3$  is pyridinyl.
- (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40, wherein  $R_1$  is aryl or heteroaryl.
  - (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 64, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is

in which

D is O, S, or  $NR^m$ ;

R<sup>j</sup> is benzo, halogen, CN, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, alkoxyl, aryloxyl, or heteroaryloxyl;

 $R^m$  is H, alkyl, or alkylcarbonyl; and r is 0, 1, or 2.

- 66 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 65, wherein X is NR<sup>c</sup>; and R<sup>c</sup> is H, methyl, ethyl, or acetyl.
  - 67 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 66, wherein U is N and V is CH.

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(New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 67, wherein Z is N and W is O.

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69 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 68, wherein Y is O or CH<sub>2</sub>; and n is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

(New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 65, wherein Y is O or  $CH_2$ ; and n is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

- 71 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 70, wherein  $R_3$  is aryl or heteroaryl.
  - 72 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 71, wherein R<sub>3</sub> is pyridinyl.
- 73 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 70, wherein  $R_3$  is  $OR^c$ ,  $SR^c$ ,  $C(O)OR^c$ , or  $C(O)NR^cR^d$ .
  - 74 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 70, wherein  $R_3$  is

$$R^f$$
  $A$  or  $R^f$   $A$ 

in which

each of A and A', independently, is O, S, or NH; each of  $R^e$  and  $R^f$ , independently is H, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and m is 1 or 2.

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75 (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 70, wherein  $R_1$  is

76. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75, wherein R<sup>j</sup> is methyl, ethyl, propyl, or benzo; and r is 1 or 2.